



COMMUTER ALERT

19-197

08-1K5204

Date: Friday, June 14, 2019

District: 8 – Riverside/San Bernardino

Contact: Shane Massoud and Terri Kasinga

Email: shane.massoud@dot.ca.gov terri.kasinga@dot.ca.gov

Phone: (909) 383-4416 or (951) 232-4268

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW INFORMATION FOR STATE ROUTES 74 AND 243 TO IDYLLWILD

SAN BERNARDINO – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Ames Construction continue progress on the emergency repairs to State Routes 74 and 243 (SR's 74 and 243) leading to the Idyllwild and Mountain Center communities. The \$30 million emergency contract is replacing culverts, rebuilding slopes and roadbeds, replacing drains, scaling rock, repaving roadbeds and reinstalling guardrail and signage.

The winter and spring rains resulted in additional damage on both routes including damage to some of the completed work that took place after the initial storm damage on February 14, 2019. This has delayed the reopening of SR 74 to full time escorts, or flagging, as promised in previous months. After the February storm events there were approximately a total of 43 locations of damage in need of repair on both routes. As of June 5, the updated damage assessment list has increased to 58 locations on SR 74 and 37 locations on SR 243. Nineteen (19) locations have been repaired on SR 74 and six (6) locations have been repaired on SR 243. Ames Construction has expended over 44,000 staff hours as of this week and has spent approximately \$15 million on the emergency repairs.

Caltrans began to provide limited escorts on SR 74 last month to provide more access to residents and tourism during the week and on weekends. Ames continues full, daytime work shifts seven days a week, and spends nighttime work hours preparing for the next days work with equipment staging, refueling, material handling and other detailed work that can be completed during nighttime hours.

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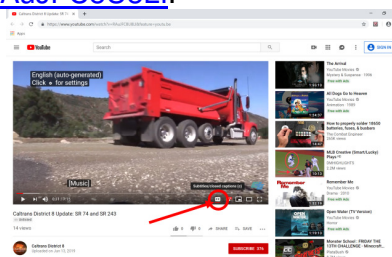
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Travelers will experience delays during the escorts. Ames Construction, Caltrans and the CHP are committed to keeping the public safe while traveling on SR-74. SR 243 remains open to motorists from Idyllwild to Lake Fulmor, however repairs continue the portion between Lake Fulmor and Banning with no estimated time of reopening currently. During the weekend escorts, Ames Construction will focus their work on SR 243.

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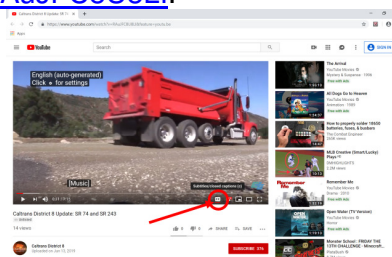
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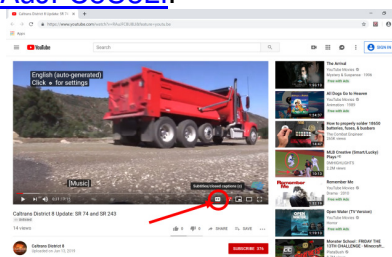
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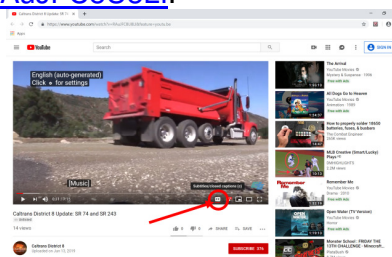
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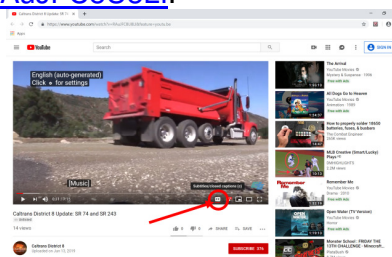
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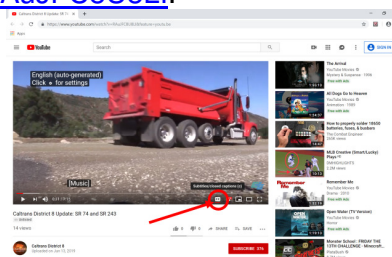
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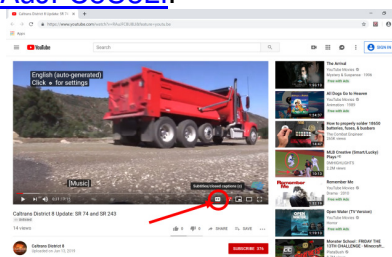
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- The construction zone on SR-74 between Mountain Center and Borco will be a “DOUBLE FINE ZONE”.
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- The escorts can be canceled at any time due to safety concerns for the traveling public such as slope issues, rock fall, roadbed concerns and motorists not following traffic laws or escort provisions.

Travelers will experience delays during the escorts. Ames Construction, Caltrans and the CHP are committed to keeping the public safe while traveling on SR-74. SR 243 remains open to motorists from Idyllwild to Lake Fulmor, however repairs continue the portion between Lake Fulmor and Banning with no estimated time of reopening currently. During the weekend escorts, Ames Construction will focus their work on SR 243.

Updates will continue to be provided by Caltrans on the progress of the emergency work. Follow us on Twitter and Facebook @caltrans8. Sign up for alerts at <http://sv08data.dot.ca.gov/memos/memos.php?f=subscribe>. To enjoy your holiday weekend in Idyllwild and surrounding communities, please go to <https://www.touridyllwild.com/> and <http://lakehemetcreation.com/>.

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###



BE WORK ZONE ALERT





COMMUTER ALERT

19-197

08-1K5204

Date: Friday, June 14, 2019

District: 8 – Riverside/San Bernardino

Contact: Shane Massoud and Terri Kasinga

Email: shane.massoud@dot.ca.gov terri.kasinga@dot.ca.gov

Phone: (909) 383-4416 or (951) 232-4268

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW INFORMATION FOR STATE ROUTES 74 AND 243 TO IDYLLWILD

SAN BERNARDINO – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Ames Construction continue progress on the emergency repairs to State Routes 74 and 243 (SR's 74 and 243) leading to the Idyllwild and Mountain Center communities. The \$30 million emergency contract is replacing culverts, rebuilding slopes and roadbeds, replacing drains, scaling rock, repaving roadbeds and reinstalling guardrail and signage.

The winter and spring rains resulted in additional damage on both routes including damage to some of the completed work that took place after the initial storm damage on February 14, 2019. This has delayed the reopening of SR 74 to full time escorts, or flagging, as promised in previous months. After the February storm events there were approximately a total of 43 locations of damage in need of repair on both routes. As of June 5, the updated damage assessment list has increased to 58 locations on SR 74 and 37 locations on SR 243. Nineteen (19) locations have been repaired on SR 74 and six (6) locations have been repaired on SR 243. Ames Construction has expended over 44,000 staff hours as of this week and has spent approximately \$15 million on the emergency repairs.

Caltrans began to provide limited escorts on SR 74 last month to provide more access to residents and tourism during the week and on weekends. Ames continues full, daytime work shifts seven days a week, and spends nighttime work hours preparing for the next days work with equipment staging, refueling, material handling and other detailed work that can be completed during nighttime hours.

Caltrans is announcing that it will begin an extended escort period on SR 74 beginning Saturday, June 15. **The escort hours have been expanded on Saturdays and Sundays from 4:00 a.m. to midnight until the Labor Day weekend.** The weekday escort hours will remain in place Monday through Friday, 4:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to midnight, respectively.

Caltrans and Ames Construction's goal is to eventually provide escorts 24 hours a day, seven days a week (24/7), beginning Labor Day weekend, Friday August 30, 2019. This 24/7 escort access will be dependent on summer rain events and any additional damage that may cause issues for the escort schedule.

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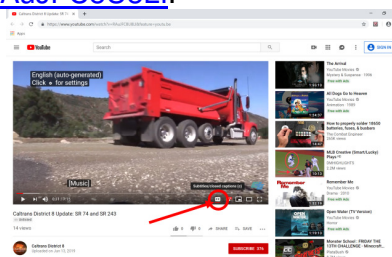
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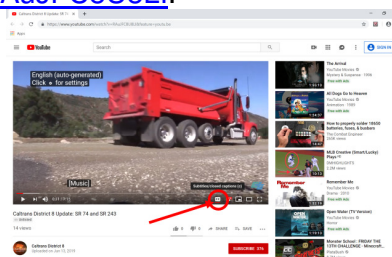
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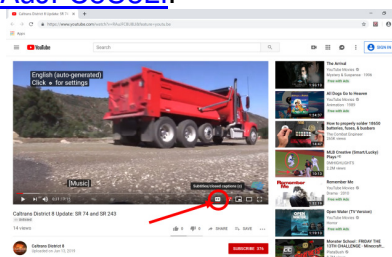
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